



TCO1-102US

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Robert J. Panek et al. : Art Unit: 3727
Serial No.: 09/845,976 : Examiner: Stephen J. Castellano
Filed: April 30, 2001 :
For: MEDICAL WASTE :
DISPOSAL SYSTEM :

RECEIVED

AUG 28 2002

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

S I R :

Prior to examination of the above-identified application, please enter the following amendment.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1-21 without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter thereof, and add claims 22-53, as follows.

- 1 22. A carrier configured to hold a container having a door mounted
2 for reciprocation between opened and closed positions, said carrier
3 comprising:
4 a body adapted to receive the container; and
5 an elongate arm coupled to said body for reciprocal extension along an
6 axis of said arm between an extended position and a retracted position with
7 respect to said body, said arm being adapted for engagement with the door of
8 the container, and said reciprocal extension of said arm being adapted to
9 reciprocate the door of the container in the direction of said axis between the
10 opened and closed positions.